

CHAPTER XIX. A Triple Alliance.

Larry refused to share my quarters and chose a room for himself, which Rates fitted up out of the house stores. I did not know what Bates might surmise about Larry, but he accepted my friend in good part, as a guest who would remain indefinitely. He seemed so interest Larry, whose eyes followed the man inquiringly.

When we went down Bates was limp down. ag about the library, endeavoring to

"Bates," I said to him, "you are a very curious person. I have had a shousand and one opinions about you since I came here, and still I don't make you out."

He turned from the shelves, a defaced volume in his hands.

"Yes, sir. It was a good deal that way with your lamented grandfather.

He always said I puzzled him." Larry, safe behind the fellow's back, made no attempt to conceal a smile.

"I want to thank you for your heroic efforts to protect the house last night. Tou acted nobly, and I must confess, Bates, that I didn't think it was in you. I'm only sorry that there are black pages in your record that I can't reconcile with your manly conduct of last sight. But we've got to come to an anderstanding."

been made on me since I came here. You know what I mean well enough. Mr. Glenarm never intended that I should sit down in his house and be list a new recruit on my wide, and Milled or robbed. He was the gentlest Being that ever lived, and I'm going to



Will Stand by You, John Glenarm!"

aght for his memory and to protect his property from the scoundrels who have plotted against me. I hope you follow

"Yes, Mr. Glenarm." He was reparding me attentively. His lips quavered, perhaps from weakness, and he seemed distressed and Ill.

"Now I offer you your choice,-either to stand loyally by me and my grandfather's house or to join these scoundrels Arthur Pickering has hired to drive me out. I'm not going to bribe you,-I don't offer you a cent for your help, but I won't have a traitor in the house, and if you don't like me or my terms I want you to go and go now."

He straightened quickly,-his eyes Eghted and the color crept into his face. I had never before seen him appear so like a human being.

"Mr. Glenarm, you have been hard on me; there have been times when you have been most unjust-"

"Unjust, unfair-my God, what do you expect me to take from you! Haven't I known that you were in league with Pickering? I'm not as dull as I look, and after your interview with Pickering in the chapel porch you can't convice me that you were faithful to my interests at that time."

He started and gazed at me wonder ingly. I had had no intention of using the chapel porch interview at this time, but it leaped out of me uncontrollably.

"I suppose, sir," he began brokeniy, "that I can hardly persuade you that I meant no wrong on that occasion.

"You certainly can not,-and it's safer for you not to try. But I'm willing to let all that go as a reward for your work last night. Make your sholce now; stay here and stop your spying or clear out within an hour

He took a step toward me; the table was between us and he drew quite mear but stood clear of it, erect until there was something soldierly and commanding in his tall figure.

"By God, I will stand by you, John Glenarm!" he said, and struck the table smartly with his clinched hand.

He flushed instantly, and I felt the Blood mounting into my own face as we gazed at each other .- he, Bates, the servant, and I, his master! He had always addressed me so punctillously with the "sir" of respect that his declaration of fealty, spoken with so sincere and vigorous an air of independence, and with the bold emphasis of the oath, that I stood spellbound, staring at him. The mience was broken by Larry, who sprang forward and grasped Bates' hand

foo, Bates," I said, feeling my up with liking, even with adn for the real manhood that this fellow whom I find charged with infamous conduct, this servant who had cared for my needs in so humble a spirit of subjection.

The knocker on the front door sounded peremptorily, and Bates turned without another word, and admitted Stoddard, who came in hurriedly.

"Merry Christmas!" he called heartfly, in tenes hardly consonant with the troubled look on his face. I introduced him to Larry and asked him to sit

"Pray excuse our disorder,-we didn't do it for fun; it was one of Santa Claus' tricks.

He stared about wonderingly. "So you caught it, too, did you?" "To be sure. You don't mean to say

that they raided the chapel?" "That's exactly what I mean to say When I went into the church for my early service I found that some one had ripped off the wainscoting in a half a dozen places and even pried up the altar. It's the most outrageous

thing I ever knew. You've heard of the proverbial poverty of the church mouse,-what do you suppose anybody could want to raid a simple little coun try chapel for? And more curious yet the church plate was untouched though the closet where it's kept was upset, as though the miscreants had looked there for something they didn't

Steddard was greatly disturbed, and "The most outrageous attacks have gazed about the topsy turny library with growing indignation.

We drew ingether for a comeil of war. Here was an opportunity to enafter I had told my every fully and con ducted Larry and Stoddard through the tunnel, the better to prove that I was not romancing, they declared their

matter what that conclusion might be The next morning Bates placed a letter postmarked Cincinnati at my plate. I opened and read it aloud to

On Board the Helpins John Glenatin, Esq., Glenarm Heuse.

Annandale, Wabana Co., Indiana: Dear Sir-I have just learned from what I believe to be a trustworthy source that you have already violated the terms of the agreement under which you entered into residence on the peoperty near Annandale, known as Glenar The provisions of the will of John Marshall Glenarm are plain and unequivocal, as you undotherity understeed when you accepted them, and your absence, not only from the estate itself, but from Wahana county, violates be-I as executor, therefore demand that

you at once vacate said property, leaving it in as good condition as when re-

ceived by you. Very truly yours, Executor of the Estate of John Marshall

"Very truly the devil's," growled Larry, snapping his cigarette case

'How did he find out?" I asked lamely, but my heart sank like lead. Had Marian Devereux told him! How else could be know?

Probably from the stars,-the whole universe undoubtedly saw you skipping off to meet your lady love. Bah these women!

Tut! They don't all marry the sons of brewers," I retorted. "You assured me once, while your affair with that Irish girl was on, that the short upper lip made Heaven seem possible, but unnecessary; then the next thing I knew she had shaken you for the bloated maltster. Take that for your impertinence. But perhaps it was

I did not wait for an answer. I was not in a mood for reflection or nice distinctions. The man came in just then with a fresh plate of toast.

"Bates, Mr. Pickering has learned that I was away from the house on the night of the attack, and I'm ordered off for having broken my agreement to stay here. How do you suppose he heard of it so promptly?"

"From Morgan, quite possibly, I have a letter from Mr. Pickering myself this morning. Just a moment, sir.

He placed before me a note bearing the same date as my own. It was a sharp rebule of Bates for his failure to report my absence promptly by wire, and he was ordered to prepare to leave on the first of Pebruary. "Close four accounts at the shopkeepers' and I will audit your bills on my arrival."

The tone was peremptory and contemptuous. Butes had falled to satisfy Pickering and was flung off like a

smoked-out cigar. "How much had he allowed you for

expenses, Rates? He met my gaze importurably "He pays me \$50 a month as wages,

sir and I am allowed \$75 for other ex-But you didn't buy English pheasants and champagne on that allow-

He was carrying away the coffee tray and his eyes wandered to the windows.

"Not quite, sir. You see-"But I don't see!"

"It had occurred to me that as Mr. Pickering's allowance wasn't what you might call generous it was better to augment it- Well, sir, I took the liberty of advancing a trifle, as you might of to transferre this hiroling. say to the catate. Your grandfather

would not have had you starve, sir." from the consequences of his words. and when I came to myself Larry was gloomily invoking his strange Irish

to kill that fellow a dozen times! This thing is too damned complicated for I wish my immented grandfather had left me something easy. To think of it-that all the time I've been curing and abusing Butes since I came here I've been enjoying his bounty.and he's been giving me the fat of the land, just because of his devotion to my grandfather's memory. Lord, 1 can't face the fellow again!"

"As I have said before, you're rather lacking at times in perspicacity. Your intelligence is marred by large opaque spots. Now that there seems to be a woman in the case you're less say than ever. Hah, these women! And now we've got to go to work."

Bah, these women! My own hear caught the words. I was suraged and bitter. No wonder she had been any ious for me to avoid Pickering in Cincinasti, after daring me to follow her

We called a council of war for that night that we might view matters in the light of Pickering's letter. His assuredness in ordering me to leave made prompt and declaive action necessary on my part. I summoded Studdard to our conference, feeling confident of his friendliness.

"Of course," said the broad shouldered chaplatu. "If you could show that your absence was on business of very grave importance, the courts might anstme in your favor.

Larry looked at the colling and blow rings of smoke funguidly. I had not disclosed to either of them the cause of my absence. On such a matter knew I abould got precious little syn ver, a feeling that I could not discu-Marian Devoreux with any one: Level shrusk from mentioning for same

She was always before me,-the 1995 and 3 years. charmed spirit of youth, linked to I have full on was ascidentally the sun upon the los-bound lake, every anort duration, but of the winter sunset. good fundames I had over stifled werquickened to life by the thought of her Amid the day's perplexities I started spirit bone. She was an unusually sometimes, thinking I heard her voice | bright child, porcessed of that transher girlish laughter, or saw her again sweet, lovable disposition, that readholding against the light her fan will all. She was Just a little ray of so little of her; I could associate her gisdlen, the hearts of her dear R. T. BERRY, Pres. with no home, only with that last file ones for a little while. Not only in of the autumn upon the lake, the snow driven woodland, that twilight hour at the home did the light of this little the organ in the chapel those states life shine, but wherever she wen moments at the Armstrongs. I re she scattered sunshine sented the pressure of the hour's at | Many times, previous to her deal fairs, and chafed at the necessity for she find uttered these words. Her talking of my perplexities with the sed Jesus." We can train good friends who were there to help Lallian was one of God's ting scal-I wished to be alone, to yield to the sweet mood that the thought of her uninisters. brought me. The doubt that crept through my mind as to any possibility hearts could do was done to of countyance between her and Picker her, but it was of no avail. ing was as vague and fleeting as the God's will be done, not ours. Not shadow of a swallow's wing on a now but in the coming years, son sunny meadow

"You don't intend fighting the fact. A few hours before the of your absence, do you?" demanded came, a wonderful brightness a

nail me for perjury besides."

a slege the better. As I understand ened up for this little chifd tleman and of a forgiving nature, you Famer, mother, sisters, dear get the executor any further than a true in this sail hour of your bereavement ter's promise, you're going to stand by and sorrow. to watch the bullion counted. Is that you're likely to get."

Spoken like a man of spirit. And now we'd better stock up at once, in case we should be shut off from our source of supplies. This is a lonely place here; even the school is a remore neighbor. Better let Bates raid the village shops to-morrow. I've tried being hungry, and I don't care to repeat the experience."

I can't imagine. I really can't belleve," began the chaplain, "that Miss Deveroux will want to be brought futo this estate matter in any way. In fact, I have heard Sister Theresa say as much. I suppose there's no way of ru ranteed. Bring in your corn preventing a man from leaving his Siere and mill opposite passenger property to a young woman who has depot no claim on him,-who doesn't want . anything from him."

"Bah, these women! People don't throw legacles to the birds these days. Of course she'll take it," observed

Then his eyes widened and met mine in a gaze that reflected the mystification and wonder that struck both of Stoddard turned suddenly from the fire, into which he had been garing, exclutming

"What's that? There's some one up utnirs!"

Larry was already running toward the hall, and I heard him springing up the steps like a cat, while Stoddard and I followed.

"Whore's Bates?" demanded the chaplain.

"I'll thank you for the answer," I replied. Larry stood at the top of the stair-

case, holding a candle at arm's length in front of him, staring about, We could hear quite distinctly some

one walking down a staltway; the

sounds were unmistakable, just as I He left hurriedly, as though to escape had heard them on two previous occasions, without ever being able to trace

The noise ceased suddenly, leaving me with no hint of its whereabouts. I went directly to the rear of the Tarry Donovan, Pre been tempted house and found Bates putting the dishes away in the pantry.

"Where have you been " I de manded Here, sir: I have been clearing up

the dinner things. Mr. Glenarmthere snything the matter, sir ""

I joined the others in the library.

Why didn't you rell me this fendal mitation was haunted" asked Larry n a grioved tone. "I'm increasingly lad I came. How often does it walk? This is the third time." I admitted it's the wind in the tower probably.

ie wind plays queer pranks some "You'll have to do herter than that,

Clenarm," laughed Stoddard. "It's as still ontside as a country graveyard. Only the slaugh sidhe, the people of

in the world," said Larry. "You literal Saxons can't grasp the idea, of course." But there was substance enough in

our dancers without pursuing shadows. Certain things were planned that night. We determined to exercise every precaution to prevent a surprise from without, and we resolved upon new and avatematic sounding of wall and floors taking our chie from th efforts made by Morgan and his ally to first hiding places by this process Pickering would undoubtedly arriv ctly, and we wished to anticipat his movements as fur as possible

(To Be Continued)

TRIBUTE

pathy from Larry, and I had, more To the Memory of Little Lea Lillian Resmolds.

> Era Littian Resmitts was born lune little 1904 and April 16th.

every foot of the earth every gleam of an handeath, has suffering was of coming toward me down the stairs, or ity indeared her to the hearts of its golden butterflies. I really knew supplies fitting to and fro. sent to

All that medical skill and loving

Larry, after a long silence.
"Of course not" I replied ferrolly ed to fall upon her.
hands reached forth as Pickering was right on my heels, and hands reached forth as if trying to my absence was known to his men trusp something she could not here. And it would not be square to reach. For mother asked her what my grandfather, who never harmed a she wanted. She said, "Oh, Mampeace!-to He about it. They might A thought came to our minds, all Then the quicker we get ready for of the beauties of heaven were opyour attitude, you don't intend to see. Among them, little Hazel, her move out until you've found where the sister, who had proceeded her to

siller's hidden. Being a galfant gen, the spirit hand some two years ago... want to be sure that the lady who is ready to meet Lillian today, tomornow entitled to it gets all there is row may never come. We extend coming to her, and as you don't trust our deepest sympathy, to you today

The funeral services were cona correct analysis of your intentions?" ducted by our pastor, Rev. Pang-That's as near one of my ideas as burn. She was tenderly laid to rest in Buchanan Chapel cemetery, near her home by the side of her little sister.

Sleep, our sweet child. A friend in sympathy.

Lizzie Hatten.

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